

# THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST



22 JAN. 1962  
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Bulgarian MIG crash

The Italian press is having a field day with speculation and Bulgarian spokesmen are flopping around in some confusion over Saturday's incident. With some of the facts still to come in, these are the key points:

a. The Bulgarian aircraft was a MIG-17 and was not equipped for photographic reconnaissance.

[redacted] only one plane was involved. Once across the Bulgarian border it flew on a nearly direct line across Yugoslavia and Albania to the crash site.

c. Unless the plane was carrying an extra supply of fuel, a point which has not yet been established, it was at or near the limit of its range when it came down. The excellent visibility in the flight area seems to rule out the possibility that the pilot blundered off his course.

d. The pilot, who has both arms broken and a possible fractured skull, is in serious, but not critical, condition. There is no official word on whether the pilot has declared himself a defector.  
e. If this turns out to be the case, the Italians may be somewhat embarrassed by their formal protest to the Bulgarian government.

2. Punta del Este  
developments

The first working session has been put off until Tuesday to allow for a last round of pre-conference consultations. There has been no break in the pattern of alignments, but we note several pieces of information bearing on the question:

a. Brazil is staying in the forefront of opposition to sanctions. Goulart restated this position after a meeting with Cuban President Dorticos on Saturday.

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b. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mexico may be willing at least to abstain on the sanctions issue.

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c. Ecuador's Arosemena is being heavily buffeted at home for his stand. There have been a number of sizeable anti-Communist rallies in the last couple of days.

d. Chile, though still against sanctions, is willing a move to expel Cuba from the OAS.



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### 3. Laos

a. The military situation is touchy in south-central Laos following what appears to have been an abortive operation against enemy-held positions by Royal forces last Thursday. The bombings reported earlier were part of the operations. Communications among the Kong Le forces indicate that preparations for some kind of counteraction are being made. These plans cite Thakhek, an important government-held town on the Mekong River boundary with Thailand, as a possible objective. [REDACTED] 50X1

b. Boun Oum and Phoumi, stopping off yesterday in Bangkok on the way home, sounded more conciliatory than usual. Phoumi spoke of giving up the defense and interior posts if the right kind of trade could be arranged. Nevertheless, Ambassador Young, who sat in on a long discussion between Boun Oum, Phoumi and Thai premier Sarit, has sent in a pessimistic report on what was said privately about the outlook for a coalition. Phoumi indicated that he has no expectation that Souvanna and Souphannouvong will accept his terms and that his intent is to put the burden for a breakdown in negotiations on the other side. [REDACTED] 50X1

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4. Adoula not entirely happy over Gizenga status

He is not convinced that Gizenga's transfer to Leopoldville, where he is under the UN's protective custody, has closed the episode. Adoula would have preferred to let Gizenga wither on the vine in Stanleyville rather than come to the capital where he may find a residue of support among radical nationalists.

5. East Germans readying new steps in support of "sovereignty" claims

They have put a customs bill on the agenda of the meeting of their parliament scheduled to open Wednesday. The probable effect of the bill will be to establish East German customs controls over West German goods passing across East German territory on the way to Berlin, with the idea that this will reinforce their contention that West Berlin is not a part of West Germany.

NOTES

- A. The Indonesian navy has placed all personnel in a state of readiness and has cancelled all leaves. [redacted] 50X1  
However, Sukarno, though notoriously mercurial, seems for the moment to be in a less excited mood and his attitude towards negotiations with the Dutch has suddenly become very reasonable.
- B. Betancourt has put the Venezuelan armed forces on alert as a precaution against a possible coup by dissident military plotters. While he says his regime is not in danger, he is concerned over the split in his governing party.
- C. Tehran remains restive following yesterday's large-scale student riots. The government has put a ban on further demonstrations scheduled for today.
- D. [redacted] from Peiping [redacted] outspoken anti-Khrushchev statements by Chinese Communist officials are circulating widely there. 50X1

**DOCUMENT OF INTEREST**

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**THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE**